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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: Q92067

Takabumi NAGAI, et al.

Appln. No.: 10/561,176

Group Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned

Confirmation No.: Not Yet Assigned

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

Filed: December 16, 2005

For: PROCESS FOR THE RECOVERY OF SURFACTANTS

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) form and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith, except for the following: U.S. patents and/or U.S. patent publications; and co-pending non-provisional U.S. applications filed after June 30, 2003.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed: (1) No later than three months from the application's filing date; (2) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later); or (3) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action after

filing a request for continued examination (RCE) under §1.114, and therefore, no Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant encloses herewith a copy of a Communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application citing such documents (International Search Report for PCT/JP2004/008967 dated November 9, 2004), together with an English-language version (if not already included) of at least that portion of the Communication indicating the degree of relevance found by the foreign patent office. Additionally, Applicant attaches an English language Abstract for JP 6-114202, JP 2001-247519 and JP 2000-138156 and states that U.S. Patent No. 6,235,701 B1 corresponds to JP 2002-543241 and U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0132192 A1 corresponds to JP 2000-138156.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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WASHINGTON OFFICE

23373

CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: March 6, 2006

Substitute for Form 1449 A & B/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**(use as many sheets as necessary)¹

Complete if Known

Application Number	10/561,176
Confirmation Number	Not Yet Assigned
Filing Date	December 16, 2005
First Named Inventor	Takabumi NAGAI
Art Unit	Not Yet Assigned
Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned
Attorney Docket Number	Q92067

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of

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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)		
		US 6,235,701	B1	05-22-2001	SENGER ELSBERND
		US 2001/0025121	A1	09-27-2001	MATSUSHITA et al.
		US 2002/0132192	A1	09-19-2002	NAMATSU
		US			
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		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Translation ⁶
		Country Code ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)			
		JP	6-114202		04-26-1994	JAPAN TOBACCO INC	Abstract
		JP	2000-138156		05-16-2000	NIPPON TELEGRAPH & TELEPHONE	Abstract
		JP	2001-247519		09-11-2001	NAT INST OF ADVANCED IND SCIEN	Abstract
		JP	2002-543241		12-17-2002	3M INNOVATIVE PROPERTIES COMPANY	

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published.	Translation ⁶

Examiner Signature

Date Considered

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov, MPEP 901.04 or in the comment box of this document. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to indicate here if English language Translation is attached.